AMENDENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

Claim 13. (previously presented) An image communication apparatus connected with a receiving facsimile via a server apparatus on the Internet, the image communication apparatus comprising;

a communicator configured to communicate with a first server apparatus and with a second server apparatus via the Internet;

a controller configured to access the first server apparatus to obtain capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile can receive,

the controller being further configured, when the first server apparatus is determined not to store the capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile can receive, to obtain, from the second server apparatus, the capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile can receive, to transform image data, based on the obtained capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile can receive, to convert the transformed image data into data for Internet transmission, and to transmit the converted data to the receiving facsimile.

Claim 14. (previously presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the first server apparatus is a local server apparatus

in a local area network containing the image communication apparatus, and the second server apparatus is a global server apparatus in a global area network connected with the local area network.

Claim 15. (previously presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the second server apparatus is a DNS server apparatus that stores the capabilities of the receiving facsimile in association with an e-mail address of the receiving facsimile.

Claim 16. (previously presented) A server apparatus connected with a transmitting facsimile and a receiving facsimile via the Internet, the server apparatus comprising;

a memory configured to store capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile can receive;

a controller configured to obtain the capabilities of the receiving facsimile from another server apparatus that stores the capabilities of the receiving facsimile, when the capabilities of the receiving facsimile are not stored in the memory and when the transmitting facsimile inquires regarding the capabilities of the receiving facsimile, and to transmit the capabilities of the receiving facsimile to the transmitting facsimile, whereby the transmitting facsimile is able to transform image data, based on the obtained capabilities of the receiving facsimile, to convert the transformed image data into data for Internet transmission, and to transmit the converted data to the receiving facsimile.

Claim 17. (previously presented) The server apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the controller obtains the capabilities of the receiving facsimile from a further server apparatus, when the another server apparatus does not store the capabilities of the receiving facsimile.

Claim 18. (previously presented) A capability exchanging method for controlling an image communication apparatus connected with a first server apparatus via a LAN and a second server apparatus via the Internet, at least one of the first server apparatus and the second server apparatus storing capabilities regarding facsimile data that a receiving facsimile is capable of receiving, the capability exchanging method comprising;

accessing the first server apparatus to obtain capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile is capable of receiving;

obtaining, from the second server apparatus, capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile is capable of receiving, when the first server apparatus is determined not to store the capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile is capable of receiving;

transforming image data, based on the obtained capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile is capable of receiving;

converting the transformed image data into data for Internet transmission;

transmitting the converted data to the receiving facsimile.

Claim 19. (currently amended) The ~~server~~ image communication apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the controller-stores, in the first server apparatus, the capabilities regarding facsimile data the receiving facsimile can receive, the capabilities being obtained from the second server apparatus.

Claim 20. (previously presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the capabilities of the receiving facsimile includes one of resolution, a paper size, a compression format, and an encryption format that are utilized for a facsimile communication.

Claim 21. (previously presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the receiving facsimile is determined by the image communication apparatus.

Claim 22. (currently amended) The server apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the capabilities of the receiving facsimile includes one of resolution, a paper size, a compression format, and an encryption format that are utilized for a facsimile communication.

Claim 23. (previously presented) The capability exchanging method according to claim 18, wherein the capabilities of the receiving facsimile includes one of resolution, a paper size, a compression format, and an encryption format that are utilized for a facsimile communication.

Claim 24. (previously presented) The capability exchanging method according to claim 18 further comprising storing, in the first server apparatus, the

capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile is capable of receiving, the capabilities being obtained from the second server.

Claim 25. (previously presented) A capability exchanging method for controlling an image communication apparatus connected with a first server apparatus via a LAN and a second server apparatus via the Internet, at least one of the first server apparatus and the second server apparatus storing capabilities regarding facsimile data that a receiving facsimile is capable of receiving, the capability exchanging method comprising;

accessing the first server apparatus;

determining whether or not the first server stores the capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile is capable of receiving;

obtaining, from the second server apparatus, capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile is capable of receiving, when the first server apparatus is determined not to store the capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile is capable of receiving;

storing, in the first server apparatus, the capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile is capable of receiving, the capabilities being obtained from the second server.

Claim 26. (previously presented) An image communication apparatus connected with a receiving facsimile via a server apparatus on the Internet, the image communication apparatus comprising;

a communicator configured to communicate with a first server apparatus and with a second server apparatus via the Internet;

a controller, when the first server apparatus is determined not to store the capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile can receive, is configured to obtain, from the second server apparatus, the capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile can receive and to store, in the first server apparatus, the obtained capabilities regarding facsimile data that the receiving facsimile can receive.